



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian
Northern District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, JAN 13, 2010
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyn>

CONTACT: Richard S. Hartunian or
Edward P. Grogan
(518)431-0247

PRESS RELEASE

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY RICHARD S. HARTUNIAN announced that **FELIX ANTONIO ORTIZ-ABREU**, age 55, of Philadelphia, PA, pled guilty today in Albany before United States District Court Judge Gary L. Sharpe to the felony offenses of passport fraud and identity theft. Sentencing for **ORTIZ-ABREU** is scheduled for May 5, 2010 in Albany. As a result of the conviction, **ORTIZ-ABREU** faces a maximum sentence of imprisonment for 12 years, supervised release for 3 years, and a fine of \$250,000, with a statutory minimum sentence of imprisonment for 2 years and a special assessment of \$200.

ORTIZ-ABREU, a citizen of the Dominican Republic, admitted that on November 4, 2009, he claimed to be a United States citizen born in Puerto Rico and presented a fraudulently acquired United States passport in support of his claim of identity and citizenship during an immigration inspection at the Champlain, New York, Port of Entry. **ORTIZ-ABREU**, an alien not lawfully able to enter or reside in the United States, had assumed the identity of a United States citizen and was caught and arrested as he tried to use the assumed identity to enter the United States.

This matter was investigated by the Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Champlain, New York, the United States Department of State, Diplomatic Security Office, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and the United States Secret Service, Albany, New York.

- 2 -

LOCAL CONTACT:
Assistant U.S. Attorney
Edward P. Grogan
518-431-0247